

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LAGOS 09876 250711Z

12

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 EB-04 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 AGR-05 /046 W

----- 117866

R 241507Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6541

INFO USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 9876

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GE, NI

SUBJECT: GDR CONCLUDES TRADE AGREEMENT WITH NIGERIA

REF: BERLIN 1907

1. AS REPORTED REFTEL, GDR AND NIGERIA SIGNED LONG-TERM TRADE AGREEMENT OCTOBER 16. GDR TRADE MISSION ARRIVED LAGOS OCTOBER 11 AND DEPARTED OCTOBER 16. DURING VISIT MISSION, WICH HEADED BY GDR MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE HORST SOELLE, HAD OPPORTUNITY CONDUCT DISCUSSIONS ON TRADE, AS WELL AS COOPERATION IN ECONOMIC, AGRICULTURAL AND OTHER FIELDS, WITH VARIOUS FMG OFFICIALS INCLUDING COMMISSIONER FOR TRADE WENIKE BRIGGS. MINISTER ALSO PAID COURTESY CALL ON GOWON WHERE SAME SUBJECTS WERE DISCUSSED. EXCEPT FOR SIGNING OF TRADE AGREEMENT ONLY OTHER ITEM OF INTEREST WHICH TOOK PLACE DURING VISIT WAS AGREEMENT BY GDR TO BUY MORE COCOA FROM NIGERIA.

2. COMMENT: WHILE THERE WAS MUCH IN LOCAL PRESS ABOUT GDR/FMG CORDIAL RELATIONS, THERE WAS LITTLE INDICATION OF ANY STRENGTHENING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LAGOS 09876 250711Z

OF TIES BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. COURTESY CALL ON GOWON SEEMS

TO HAVE BEEN NO MORE THAN JUST THAT. EXCEPT FOR POSSIBILITY OF AGREEMENT LEADING TO INCREASED TRADE, WHICH, AS RIGHTLY POINTED OUT IN REFTEL, IS CURRENTLY NEGLIGIBLE, THERE IS LITTLE EVIDENCE OF ANYTHING MORE SUBSTANTIVE HAVING RESULTED FROM GDR MINISTER'S TRIP. OF POSSIBLE FUTURE SIGNIFICANCE IS JOINT COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED BY PACT TO INSURE DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION OF TRADE RELATIONS AND TO SERVE AS MEDIUM OF EXCHANGE OF RELEVANT INFORMATION, BUT IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHAT USE WILL BE MADE OF IT. AT MOMENT FRG CLEARLY HAS INSIDE TRACK WITH RESPECT TO TRADE IN NIGERIA AND GDR WILL HAVE MUCH CATCHING UP TO DO IF IT SERIOUSLY IS INTERESTED IN NIGERIAN MARKET.

3. SINCE GDR/FMG DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS FORMALIZED ONLY VERY RECENTLY (APRIL 1973). SOELLE VISIT CLEARLY ATTEMPT TO CONTINUE CAMPAIGN ALREADY STARTED TO FURTHER LEGITIMIZE GDR IN EYES OF NIGERIANS WHO UP UNTIL PRESENT HAVE TENDED TO BE PRO-FRG (THE FRG BEING WELL ENTRENCHED IN NIGERIA SINCE INDEPENDENCE). THIS WAS CONFIRMED BY GDR COUNSELOR WHO TOLD ECON COUNSELOR AT RECEPTION FOR MISSION EXERCISE WAS ESSENTIALLY AN IMAGE BUILDING ONE FOR POLITICAL AND PUBLIC RELATIONS PURPOSES. IN THIS RESPECT VISIT CAN PROBABLY BE DESCRIBED AS BEING SUCCESSFUL FROM GDR VIEW POINT.

4. TEXT OF AGREEMENT WILL BE POUCHED TO DEPT.  
REINHARDT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC COOPERATION, POLICIES, TRADE AGREEMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974LAGOS09876  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740304-1096  
**From:** LAGOS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19741020/aaaaaqvi.tel  
**Line Count:** 86  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** BERLIN 1907  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 MAR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <27 MAR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <23 MAY 2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GDR CONCLUDES TRADE AGREEMENT WITH NIGERIA  
**TAGS:** ETRD, GC, NI  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005